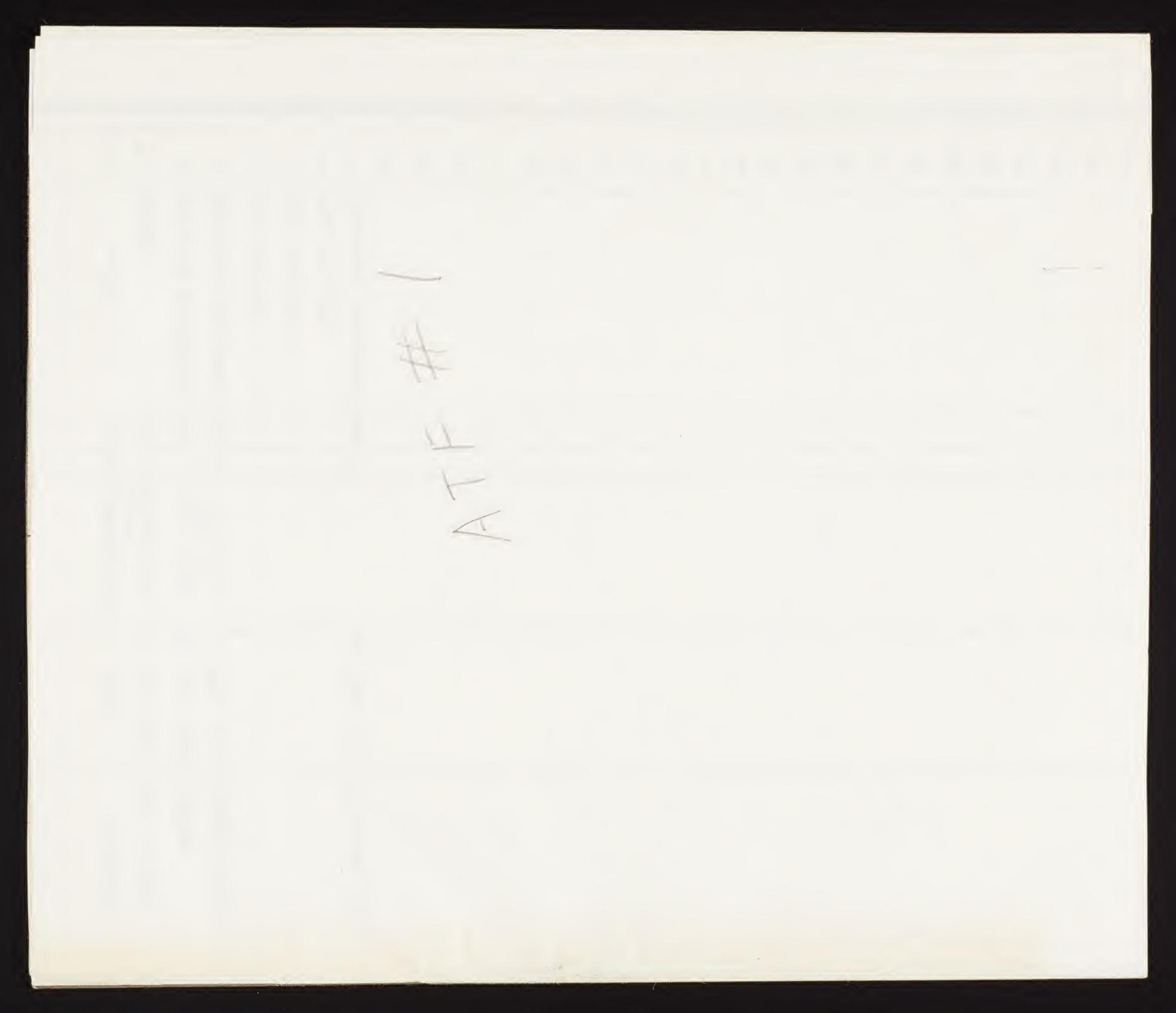
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| No. | SPECIES | AGE SE | X MEASUREMENTS | DATE | COLLECTOR | LOCALITY | |
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REMARKS

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Numbers of Mammals Collected on Southern Island Trips as Indicated by Trip Reports
SIC 10-20
compiled by R. B. Clapp -- 28 July 1969

SIC 20 - October 1968

McKean Island Report -- No mammals occur

SIC 19 - June-July 1968

Sydney Island Report - July 1968 (Clapp) -- 1 cat collected

Howland Island Report - July 1968 (Clapp) -- no mammals collected

McKean Island Report - July 1968 (Clapp) -- no mammals occur

Enderbury Island Report -- July 1968 (Clapp) -- no mammals collected

Baker Island Report -- July 1968 (Hackman and Clapp) -- no mammals collected

Starbuck Island Report -- June 1968 (Clapp and Hackman) -- no mammals collected

Jarvis Island Report -- June 1968 (Clapp) -- no mammals collected

Malden Island Report -- June 1968 (Clapp) -- 4 mice collected and preserved in 70% alcohol

SIC 18 - March-April 1967

Starbuck Island Report -- April 1967 (Smith) -- 1 cat collected and frozen, 1 Polynesian rat collected with shotgun, and, although badly mauled, frozen for ectoparasite study.

Malden Island Report -- Mar. - Apr. 1967 (Stadel) -- 1 mouse was collected

Baker Island Report -- April 1967 (Tuxson) -- None collected

Jarvis Island Report -- March 1967 (Chandler) -- None collected

Palmyra Island Report -- March 1967 (Stadel) -- Mammals not mentioned in report

Fanning Island Report -- March 1967 (DeLong) -- Mammals not mentioned in report

Christmas Island Report -- March 1967 (Stadel) -- Several rats (identified in field as Polynesian) collected on Motu Upou for ectoparasite collection

Swains Island Report -- April 1967 (Chandler) -- 1 Polynesian Rat collected

Howland Island Report -- April 1967 (Stadel) -- Apparently none collected

Numbers of Mammals Collected on Southern Island Trips as Indicated by Trip Reports -- p.2

SIC 17 - January-February 1967

Baker Island Report -- Feb. 1967 (Smith) -- None collected

Hull Island Report -- Jan-Feb. 1967 (Croswin) -- Apparently none collected

Phoenix Island Report -- Jan. 1967 (Chandler) -- Mammals not mentioned in report.

Howland Island Report -- Feb. 1967 (Tuxson) -- None collected

Baker Island Report -- Jan. 1967 (Chandler) -- None coltected

Enderbury Island Report -- Jan. 1967 (Balcomb) -- None collected

Howland Island Report -- Jan. 1967 (Balcomb) -- No mammals mentioned in report.

SIC 16 - November-December 1966

Swains Island Report -- Nov. 1966 (Crossin and Balcomb) -- 5 Polynesian Rats collected

Enderbury Island Report -- Dec. 1966 (Crossin & Balcomb) -- None collected

Phoenix Island Report -- Dec. 1966 (Crossin) -- None collected

Baker Island Report -- Nov. 1966 (Chandler) -- None collected

Howland Island Report -- Nov. 1966 (Balcomb) -- None collected

Howland Island Report -- Dec. 1966 (Balcomb) -- 1 cat collected

SIC 15 - September-October 1966

Phoenix Island Report -- Oct. 1966 (Woodward) -- 5 rabbits collected

Baker Island Report -- Sept. 1966 (Woodward) -- Evidently none collected

Howland Island Report -- Oct. 1966 (Bulmer) -- Mammals not mentioned in report.

Howland Island Report -- Sept. 1966 (Bulmer) -- Mammals not mentioned in report.

Swains Island Report -- Oct. 1966 (Bulmer) -- Evidently none collected

Birnie Island Report -- Oct. 1966 (Woodward) -- 14 Polynesian Rats collected

Enderbury Island Report -- Sept. - Oct. 1966 (Bulmer & Woodward) - Mammals not mentioned

Hull Island Report -- Oct. 1966 (Bulmer) -- 13 Polynesian Rats collected

Baker Island Reports -- Oct. 1966 (Bulmer) -- Evidently none collected

Fitch-Mammal Report - SIC 15

Says following were collected : Birnie ---- 14 Polynesian Rats

Swains ---- 4 Polynesian Rats

Hull ---- 13 Polynesian Rats

Phoenix -- : 5 Rabbits collected

SIC 14 -- July-August 1966

Gardner Island Report -- July 1966 (Clapp) - - None collected

McKean Island Report -- July 1966 (Clapp) -- None collected

Howland Island Report -- July 1966 (Clapp) -- None collected

Baker Island Report -- Aug. 1966 (Clapp) -- None collected

Baker Island Report -- July 1966 (Clapp) -- 2 House Mice collected

Howland Island Report -- Aug. 1966 (Clapp & Bulmer) -- Mammals not mentioned in report.

Jarvis Island Report -- Aug. 1966 (Clapp) -- 1 kitten and 2 cats collected & frozen, a statistically useful series of mice collected (As I remember-about 15-17 individuals (RBC))

Swains Island Report -- Aug. 1966 (Clapp & Bulmer) -- 2 Rattus sp. collected, both adult males

Numbers of Mammals Collected on Southern Island Trips as Indicated by Trip Reports --- p. 4

SIC 13 -Apr.-May 1966

Howland Island Report -- May 1966 (Harrington) -- None collected

McKean Island Report -- Apr-May 1966 (Crossin) -- None collected

Palmyra Island Report -- May 1966 (Crossin) -- 1 Rattus rattus collected

Baker Island Report -- May 1966 (Heryford) -- None collected

SIC 12 -- March 1966

Howland and Baker Islands visited - No specimens collected.

SIC LL -- February-March 1966

Howland, Baker and Swains visited twice; Hull, Enderbury, & Christmas Visited

Thompson Report -- 4 House Mice collected on Baker and 12 Polynesian Rats collected.

SIC 10 -- November 1965

Howland and Baker visited - evidently no specimens collected

Numbers of Mammals Collected on Southern Island Trips as Indicated by Trip Reports
SIC 10-20
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SIC 20 - October 1968

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Malden Island Report -- Mar.-Apr. 1967 (Stadel) -- 1 mouse was collected

Baker Island Report -- April 1967 (Tuxson) -- None collected

Jarvis Island Report -- March 1967 (Chandler) -- None collected

Palmyra Island Report -- March 1967 (Stadel) -- Mammals not mentioned in report

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Numbers of Mammals Collected on Southern Island Trips as Indicated by Trip Reports -- p.2 .

SIC 17 - January-February 1967

Baker Island Report -- Feb. 1967 (Smith) -- None collected

Hull Island Report -- Jan-Feb. 1967 (Croswin) -- Apparently none collected

Phoenix Island Report -- Jan. 1967 (Chandler) -- Mammals not mentioned in report.

Howland Island Report -- Feb. 1967 (Tuxson) -- None collected

Baker Island Report -- Jan. 1967 (Chandler) -- None coldected

Enderbury Island Report -- Jan. 1967 (Balcomb) -- None collected

Howland Island Report -- Jan. 1967 (Balcomb) -- No mammals mentioned in report.

SIC 16 - November-December 1966

Swains Island Report -- Nov. 1966 (Crossin and Balcomb) -- 5 Polynesian Rats collected

Enderbury Island Report -- Dec. 1966 (Crossin & Balcomb) -- None collected

Phoenix Island Report -- Dec. 1966 (Crossin) -- None collected

Baker Island Report -- Nov. 1966 (Chandler) -- None collected

Howland Island Report -- Nov. 1966 (Balcomb) -- None collected

Howland Island Report -- Dec. 1966 (Balcomb) -- 1 cat collected

SIC 15 - September-October 1966

Phoenix Island Report -- Oct. 1966 (Woodward) -- 5 rabbits collected

Baker Island Report -- Sept. 1966 (Woodward) -- Evidently none collected

Howland Island Report -- Oct. 1966 (Bulmer) -- Mammals not mentioned in report.

Howland Island Report -- Sept. 1966 (Bulmer) -- Mammals not mentioned in report.

Swains Island Report -- Oct. 1966 (Bulmer) -- Evidently none collected

Birnie Island Report -- Oct. 1966 (Woodward) -- 14 Polynesian Rats collected

Enderbury Island Report -- Sept. - Oct. 1966 (Bulmer & Woodward) - Mammals not mentioned

Hull Island Report -- Oct. 1966 (Bulmer) -- 13 Polynesian Rats collected

Baker Island Reports -- Oct. 1966 (Bulmer) -- Evidently none collected

Fitch-Mammal Report - SIC 15

Says following were collected: Birnie ---- 14 Polynesian Rats

Swains ---- 4 Polynesian Rats

Hull ---- 13 Polynesian Rats

Phoenix -- : 5 Rabbits collected

SIC 14 -- July-August 1966

Gardner Island Report -- July 1966 (Clapp) - - None collected

McKean Island Report -- July 1966 (Clapp) -- None collected

Howland Island Report -- July 1966 (Clapp) -- None collected

Baker Island Report -- Aug. 1966 (Clapp) -- None collected

Baker Island Report -- July 1966 (Clapp) -- 2 House Mice collected

Howland Island Report -- Aug. 1966 (Clapp & Bulmer) -- Mammals not mentioned in report.

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(As I rembmber-about 15-17 individuals (RBC))

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Numbers of Mammals Collected on Southern Island Trips as Indicated by Trip Reports --- p. 4

SIC 13 -Apr. - May 1966

Howland Island Report -- May 1966 (Harrington) -- None collected

McKean Island Report -- Apr-May 1966 (Crossin) -- None collected

Palmyra Island Report -- May 1966 (Crossin) -- 1 Rattus rattus collected

Baker Island Report -- May 1966 (Heryford) -- None collected

SIC 12 -- March 1966

Howland and Baker Islands visited - No specimens collected.

SIC LL -- February-March 1966

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Thompson Report -- 4 House Mice collected on Baker and 12 Polynesian Rats collected.

SIC 10 -- November 1965

Howland and Baker visited - evidently no specimens collected

MAMMALS

A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON TERRESTIAL MAMMALS ON SIC 15

> by John H. Fitch

A Preliminary Report on Terrestial Mammals on SIC #15

Introduction:

The Pacific Ocean Biological Survey Program conducts periodic Southern Island surveys which include surveys of existing mammal populations. This paper constitutes a brief preliminary report on mammal observations and collections for SIC 15. Effort was made to collect a series of rodents and lagomorphs from the islands in addition to taking notes on density, habitat preference, reproduction, food habits and behavior. Table #1 summarizes the species observed and the number collected from each island.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Polynesian Rat (Rattus exulans)

The Polynesian rat was observed and collected from three of seven islands visited on SIC 15; 14 specimens were collected from Birnie, 4 from Swains and 13 from Hull. According to previous reports, populations of R. exulans were lower on Birnie, the same on Swains, and higher on Hull than on previous trips.

Rats on Birnie, which is a dry island, were found in rock piles and under logs. The average density was one rat per 105 square feet of ground area. Rock piles were utilized as nesting areas; nests were usually composed of straw and dried pieces of <u>Boerhavia</u>. Rat nests were usually found several inches above the ground level in rock piles, possibly because hermit crabs

used the rock piles at ground level during the day. R. exulans were relatively rare on Swains Island, a wet island with lush vegetation.

They were found in old buildings and sheds, under logs and in piles of discarded coconut husks. According to the villagers, dogs and cats on the island kill rats frequently, which may account for their low population in comparison to Swains were cats are rare. On Hull Atoll, a wet atoll that is not inhabited, rats were very common. They occurred in the deserted village as well as in undisturbed coconut forests. An average of one rat was seen for every twenty square feet of ground area. Only one cat was sighted on the island. In the vicinity of the village, rats occurred on roofs, walls, and floors of huts and utilized stone walls or rock piles, when available, as hiding or nesting places. A nest of straw and grass containing two embryos was located under a rock. In coconut forests, rats built nests and hid under piles of coconut fronds.

R. exulans were more active nocturnally than diurnally. On Swains, a maximum of 26 rats was counted in one hut at night as compared to a maximum of six during the day. On Birnie, only two rats were sighted in the open during the day; the rest were found in rock piles.

Rats eat a variety of foods. On Hull Atoll, rats were observed eating breadfruit, melons, seeds, coconut meat, and l Polynesian gecko (Gehyra oceanica). On Swains Island, rats also utilize fruit; on Birnie, rats rely on such succulent plants as Sesuvium.

Of 14 specimens of R. exulans collected from Birnie, six males

had distended testes and six females were pregnant. On Hull, none of the specimens collected were in reproductive condition.

Territorial behavior was exhibited by R. exulans on several occasions on Hull. In the coconut forest, individual rats maintained a certain territorial space; intruders were either chased away by loud squeaks or by charges on the part of the defender. Territorial space was evidently not maintained in areas where food was present. Six rats fed together on a melon that had been cut open and left on a trail.

Most of the specimens were collected by hand or with a .22 pistol.

Museum Special snap traps were usually ineffective because they were

sprung by hermit crabs.

House Mouse (Mus musculus)

Mus musculus were observed on only one island on SIC 15. Four house mice were sighted but not collected on Baker Island. According to past records, the population of Mus musculus has been substantially, perhaps by cats, reduced in the last three to four months. At least three cats were seen on the island.

All four M. musculus were observed in a Tribulus-Boerhavia association.

Fifteen Museum Special snap traps were set out at night on piles of lumber and on barrels out of the reach of hermit crabs but no mice were caught.

-4-European Hare (Oryctotgus cuniculus) Orcyctotgus cuniculus were observed and collected from Phoenix Island where they occur very commonly. An estimated 450 were flushed out of nests by POBSP personnel during a bird survey of the island. Foot, ear, and total length measurements were taken on ten individuals (see Table #2). Coat color, usually of a bi-color pattern, included combinations of brown-white, black-white, gray-white, light tan and mottled tan-white. Rabbits were mainly crepuscular and nocturnal in their daily cycles. Usually rabbits remained in burrows during the day and came out an hour or so before sunset. Burrows ranged from shallow depressions under Sida or Lepturus cover to deserted Wedge-tailed Shearwater burrows, evidentally enlarged by rabbits. Three burrows were dug up, measured and mapped out (see Table #3). Nests were usually found in the deepest part of the burrow and were loosely constructed of Repturus straws. None of the females were lactating or pregnant (refer to Table #2). Most of the immatures appeared to be three to four weeks old. House Cat (Felis domesticus) Feral cats were observed on four of seven islands visited on SIC 15. Two adults and two kittens were observed on Howland Island. They

were sighted frequently at night in the vicinity of the sea plane wreckage. On one occasion, in October, the female and two kittens were sighted on the edge of the Sooty Tern colony with a freshly killed adult Sooty Tern. On Baker, two adults were observed at night near the northern part of the island. Several adult Frigatebird skeletons with tooth marks on the skulls were found in rusted out barrels near the center of the island. One cat was flushed out of a deserted hut on Hull, and on Swains, at least eight cats lived in the village with the islanders. According to informants, cats on Swains eat rats and small shore birds.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the majority of islands in the Central South

Pacific area support populations of at least one introduced species of
mammal. Because of the lack of natural population controls, populations
frequently have no real equilibrium. Predation, for example, may not be
adequate to control populations. On Hull Island, cats were not common
enough to control the Polynesian rat population. More observations
need to be made especially on population fluctuations and food habits.

TABLE #1. Summary of Mammal Collections and Observations.

| ISLAND | , | | SPEC | IES | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|
| | Oryctotgus cuniculus | Mus musculus | Rattus | Felis domesticu | Canis famili | Pig | Horse |
| Howland | _ | gree- | - | observed | aso | - | dron |
| Baker | | observed | - | observed | - | - | - |
| Enderbury | | - | - | • | - | - | em |
| Phoenix | 5 | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Birnie | | *** | 14 | - | - | - | - |
| Swains | *** | - | 4 | observed | observed | observed | observed |
| Hull | - | geo | 13 | observed | signs observed | signs observed | (M) |

TABLE # 2. Rabbit Measurements and Reproductive Status.

| SEX | REPRODUCTIVE | HIND FOOT LENGTH | EAR LENGTH | TOTAL LENGTH |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| Female Male Male Female Male Female Female Female Male Male | adult-non-lactating adult-testie-lixll adult-testie-lo X 29 adult adult-non-lactating immature immature immature immature immature | 90 92 85 82 88 65 71 56 60 | 76 88 89 67 82 45 68 49 51 | 140 1402 1410 387 1455 250 2614 220 2146 190 |

TABLE # 3. Burrow Descriptions.

| Main Entrance | Total Length | Greatest Depth | No. of Entrances |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| 90 X 20 | 810 | 230 | 1 |
| 81 X 220 mm. | 480 | 270 | 3 |
| 100 X 180 mm. | 240mm. | 250 | 2 |

Table IV. Berlese Sample Collections for SIC 14, July-August 1966.

| Species | Baker | Gardner | Howland | Jarvis | McKean | Total |
|-----------------------|-------|---------|---------|--------|--------|-------|
| Audubon's Shearwater | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Red-tailed Tropicbird | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 9 |
| Blue-faced Booby | 2 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 12 |
| Brown Booby | 0 | 0 . | 6 | 3 | 0 | 9 |
| Red-footed Booby | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 | . 0 | 10 |
| Great Frigatebird | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Lesser Frigatebird | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Sooty Tern | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| Blue-gray Noddy | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Common Noddy | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Hawaiin Noddy | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 04 | 4 |
| Mus muscus | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | . 2 |
| Rattus exulans | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| TOTALS | 9 | 1 | 59 | 13 | 14 | 96 |

Other mammal - (spermens?)

SIC-6- Baker - 9 mus - (See Menrill catalogue 2 catskull - (11 11) SIC-6- Howland - 1 outskull - (11 11) 510-6- Gardner - 2 dogskulls (11 11) 1 praskull (10 11 11) 2 outskulls (11 11) \$10-6 - Sydney - 2 vals (etulans?) - 11 11) SIC-6- Janus - 2 catskulls (" " ") 2 Mus (11 11) Sic-6 - Palmyra = 1 voit (11 11) SIC-7 - Hull - oatskull (See Kukpulah Pfranci) SIC-7 - Baker - 3 spee " (See ") SIC7- BITTINE - 19 Mus. (11) (For above see also RDK) SIC ? - 1/411 - Dogskull? (RDK cat.) 3108 - Hull - vat (DIS cat.) SIC8 - Canton - 8 voits SIC8 - Tutada - 1 rat SIC8 - Phoenix - 1 vabbit SIC8 - Vostok - 12 rals SIC8 - Caroline - 3 vals SC-9- fulle who rogu.

| - | Other Mo | ammal (Spe | ecimons) |
|--------|-------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| | | | |
| SIC5 - | Palmyra: | 2 vals | (See Huber cont.) |
| SIC5- | Palmyra: M.U. Xinas: | tion 1 | (" |
| SIC5- | Malden: | 6 mice | (11) |
| (m | ne cals to the | of of SICS | |
| SCH- | Birnie | 1 vat | (Huber cut) |
| | Phank | | (" ") |
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Lundberg - Adriton, MQ.

| - Intelin | 1.0 |
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| 450 - Belopol'skii, L.O. Eology of seabals Boers | jen 45.00 |
| 510 - Hutson, H.P.W. The orn. Hologist's guide | 43.00 |
| 561 - Strong's Bibliografel Hool | 27.50 |
| 584 - Asdell S.H. Patterns of manmalin reprod. | 4.50 |
| 680 - | |
| 713 - Herpetologica - Index to volumes 1-11 | |
| 1936-1955 | \$1.00 |
| 7489 Smith - Handbookel Lizads | 10.00 |

Pacifie Project

Under separate cover I am sending you 304 dry, uncleaned Mus skulls. Included are U.S.N.M. Field Nos. 25058-25078; 25082-25084; 25086-25089; 25091-25100; 25205; 25429; 25438; 25467-25468; 25474-25475; 25486; 25502; 25510; 25535+25537; 25539; 25542; 25544-25545; 25547-25548; 25554; 25559; 25564-25565; 25567; 25572; 25574; 25576; 25578-25579; 25581-25582; 25584; 25593-25594; 25596; 25598-25601; 25603; 25605-25606; 25609-25614; 25616; 25618-25620; 25624; 25627-25635; 25639-25640; 25642-25643; 25647-25652; 25654-25656; 25668-25659; 25662-25663; 25669-25674; 25676-25680; 25682; 25684; 25686-25687; 25691-25694; 25696; 25698-25699; 25701-25703; 25707-25708; 25711-25713; 25717; 25719; 25722-25723; 25726-25736; 25738; 25741; 25743; 25745-25746; 25754; 25768-25770; 25774-25782; 25787; 25789-25794; 25800-25813; 25815-25824; 25826-25827; 25829-25840; 25842-25859; 25878; 25885; 25913-25914; 25919; 25921; 26013-26030; 26032-26046; 26048-26051; 26053-26065. Please have them cleaned, then return them to me for examination.

Sohn Miles

The enclosed Mus Skulls were removed from case 142 on The West Range of The Division of Mammels on October 11, 1966.

They were uneleaned and uneatalogued, but encased in vials with Their field number.

On November 7, They were forwarded to Dr. Ralphi Kirkpatrick at the University of Indiana.

They are from Sand Is, Johnston Atoll anly.

Jan Reese

forwarded to R.D.K. - Taken from Mammel Division Field numbers of mus skulls (uncatalogued)

| 25153 | 25179 | 25200 | 25236 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 55 | 80 | 01 | 37 |
| 56 | 81 | 02 | 39. |
| 57 | 82 | 03 | 40 |
| 58 | 83 | 05 | 41 |
| 59 | 84 | 06 | 412 |
| 60 | 85 | 07 | 43 |
| 61 | 86 | 10 | 44 |
| 62 | 87 | 12 | 45 |
| 63 | 88 | 13 | 46 |
| 64 | 89 | 14 | 47 |
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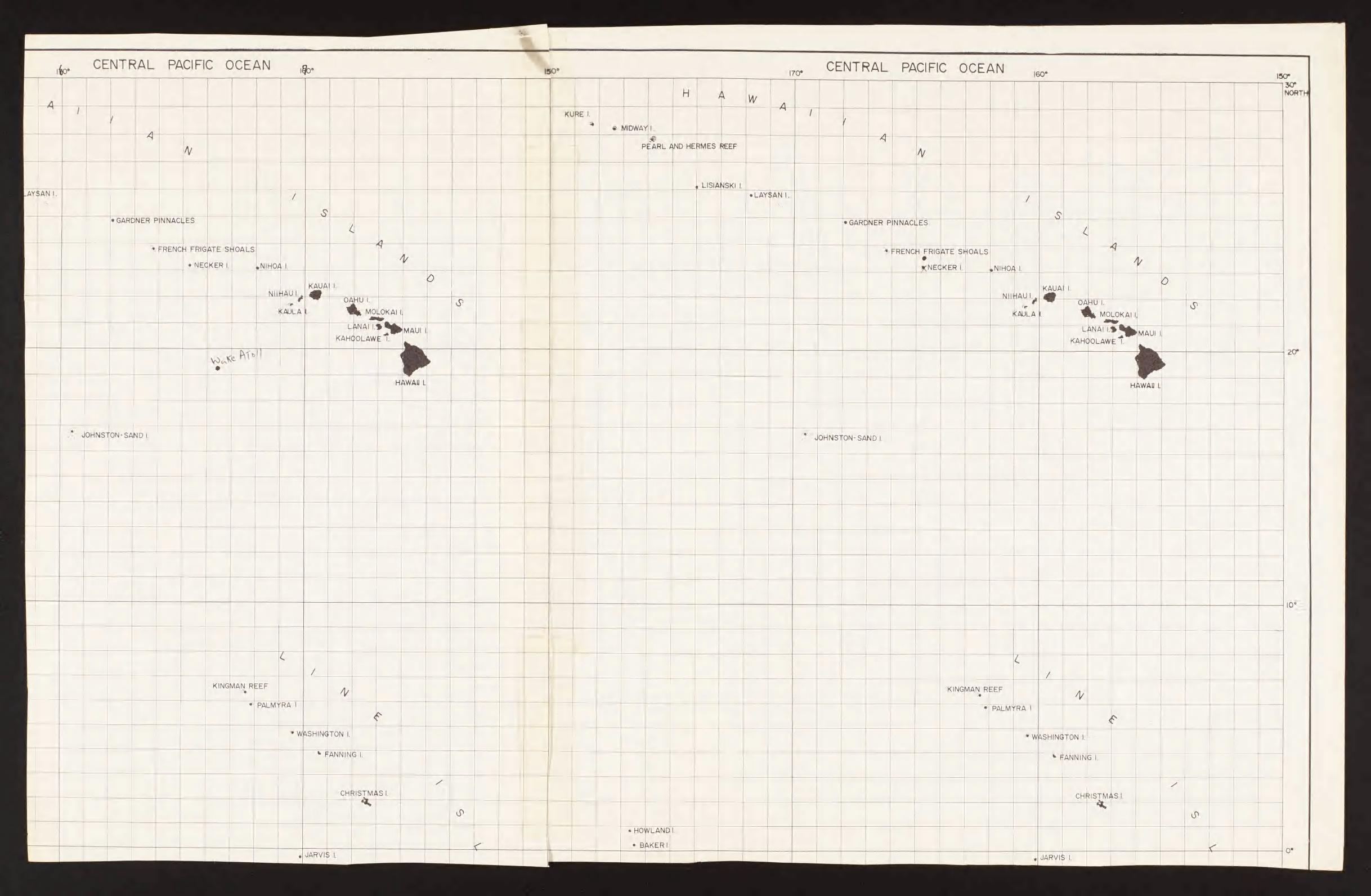
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THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO ALBUQUERQUE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY Nov. 1, 1966 Dr. David Johnson Mammal Division U.S. National Museum Washington 25, D.C. Dear Dr. Johnson: In December of 1964 Dr. James S. Findley, my major professor, and I visited your nuseum to examine Pipistrellus hesperus specimens. We are unable to locate several tag localities for specimens in your collection. It would be greatly appreciated if you would supply us with more information for the localities listed below. For your convenience, please use this shiet and return it to me at your earliest convenience in the enclosed addressed and stamped envelope. Thank you. Sincerely, Gerald J. Treaut

Gerald L. Traut

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